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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

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Application of : NOV 26 2004  
Takashi NIWA et al. : Technology Center 2600  
Serial No. 09/872,800 : Group Art Unit: 2653  
Filed: June 2, 2001 : Examiner: Bach Q. Vuong  
For: METHOD FOR FORMING OPTICAL :  
APERTURE, NEAR-FIELD :  
OPTICAL HEAD, METHOD FOR :  
FABRICATING NEAR-FIELD :  
OPTICAL HEAD, AND :  
INFORMATION RECORDING/ :  
READING APPARATUS (As :  
Amended) : Docket No. S004-4309  
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MS FEE AMENDMENT  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated August 26, 2004, applicants amend their application as follows:

ADDITIONAL FEES:

Submitted herewith is a check in the amount of \$232.00 to cover the fee for one (1) extra independent claim and eight (8) claims in excess of 20 total. Should it be

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON PAGE 36

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01 FC:1201  
02 FC:1202

88.00 OP  
144.00 OP

determined that an additional fee is due, authorization is hereby given to charge any such fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-0268.

IN THE TITLE:

The Title of the invention has been amended as follows:

METHOD FOR FORMING OPTICAL APERTURE, NEAR-FIELD  
OPTICAL HEAD, AND METHOD FOR FABRICATING ~~THE SAME~~ NEAR-FIELD  
OPTICAL HEAD, AND INFORMATION RECORDING/READING APPARATUS